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Thursday, May 29, 2014

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Former guard gets four years for sex assaults

Court. Clinton Russell must provide a DNA sample and will be placed on the sex offenders registry for life

A former security guard at The Ottawa Hospital was sentenced to four years in jail Wednesday for molesting two developmentally delayed patients from the psychiatric ward.

Clinton Russell, 44, was convicted of sexual assault and sexual exploitation of a person with a disability after two different trials involving one complainant.

He had maintained his innocence in both cases, which were held last October and in January of this year.

The victims were adult female patients with a mental ability of a child between the ages of five and eight. Court heard in both incidents, the women were forced to perform oral sex.

"He had keys to access any location, he knew where cameras were located, he wore a uniform that would make someone of reduced cognitive ability think that they should do what he said," said Justice Monique Métivier in her sentencing. "All circumstances which made the breach of his position of trust and authority the more repugnant."

Speaking to reporters outside the courthouse, one of the victim's mother said she is satisfied with the sentence and hopes it will encourage other victims of sexual abuse to speak up.

"A lot of people with disabilities or special needs; they don't come forward because a lot of people don't believe them," said the mother. "I said, 'do what you feel in your heart.' By you doing this it might help other disability and special needs people."

Crown prosecutor Suzanne Schriek said having the victims' stories believed was a concern, which is why an expert witness was called to testify on intellectual disabilities.

"Most of these incidents take place in situations of trust and that's why they're allowed to happen," said Schriek.

Russell must provide a DNA sample and will be placed on the sex offenders registry for life. Schriek said it is her understanding that Russell intends to appeal his conviction.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Clinton Russell, 44, leaves the Ottawa courthouse with his wife on May 14 after a Crown prosecutor argued he should serve eight years in prison for sexually assaulting two mentally delayed female patients at the Ottawa Hospital. JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Former soldier resigns from role as senator

Romeo Dallaire. Champion of veteran rights wants to focus more time on international humanitarian work

Liberal Sen. Romeo Dallaire, a career soldier best known in Canada as former commander of the UN's ill-fated peacekeeping mission in Rwanda, is resigning — not retiring, he insists — from the upper chamber.

Dallaire's last day in the Senate will be June 17, after which he intends to focus attention on a growing portfolio of international humanitarian work, the square-jawed senator told a news conference Wednesday.

The decision has nothing to do with either the shadow of scandal that has loomed over the Senate for more than a year, or with the Rwandan-born post-traumatic stress disorder that has haunted him for 20 years, he said.

Rather, Dallaire, 68, said he felt there simply wasn't enough time in his schedule to be a senator while also pursuing causes close to his heart that are related to defence and human rights in the international arena.

Dallaire said resigning has left him with a "torn heart" because his nine years in the Senate allowed him to champion issues including veterans and their families, anti-terrorism, aboriginal rights and better intelligence oversight.

"I think it was a very useful instrument for me to advance things I believe in," he said.

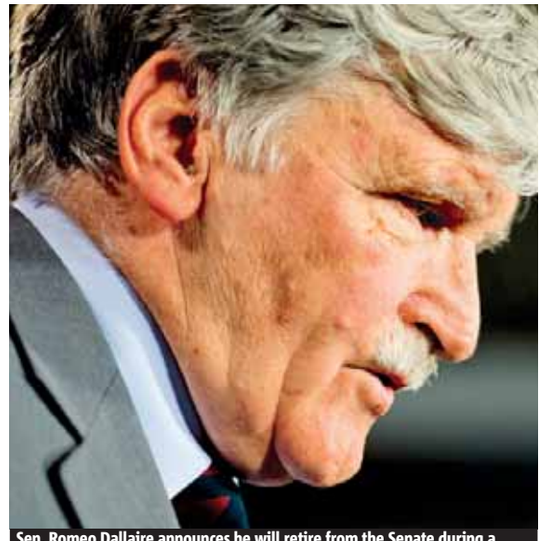
He made headlines in December when he fell asleep at the wheel of his car and crashed into a traffic barrier on Parliament Hill — an accident he attributed to the stress of the coming Rwandan anniversary.

As the world marked two decades since the tragedy, Dallaire complained bitterly about lessons he says have gone unheeded — including his sense that the Conservative government wants little to do with the United Nations.

He still bears the mental and emotional scars of bearing witness to the bloody genocide that erupted in the spring of 1994.

"I live every day what I lived 20 years ago, and it's as if it was this morning," he said. "You can't walk away from the scale of destruction, nor can you walk away from the sense of abandonment that my troops and I had in the field as we continued to face that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sen. Romeo Dallaire announces he will retire from the Senate during a news conference in Ottawa on Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Students speak out about U of O 'intimidation'

Shelagh Roxburgh JOE LOFARO/METRO

Two PhD students at the University of Ottawa made public what they call a "culture of harassment" at the university and urged their peers to speak out about intimidating professors.

Former teaching assistant Shelagh Roxburgh, 30, said she failed 80 per cent of the students' papers in a second-year political science class last spring.

"I found that all the students had reproduced the professor's ideology and argumentation even though it was, according to the actual theory being taught, grossly incorrect," said Roxburgh.

After speaking with students about the professor as she submitted a formal complaint to the PhD program director, things got worse.

"When I finally met with the director ... I was told that my contract had been terminated, my pay had been cut retroactively to the day I made the complaint, and I was advised by him not to go to my union," she said.

Roxburgh says other students fear "professional retaliation" if they voice concerns about professors. "The competition is high, the risks are very real, and students want to play it safe. We're accepting a higher level of intimidation and it has to stop somewhere."

Joseph Roy, a PhD student from the U.S., has filed a human rights complaint against a U of O professor who was responsible for supervising his dissertation research in 2010.

He claimed that the supervisor accused him of being dyslexic and apparently refused to help him until he addressed his medical condition, according to the complaint.

Roy eventually earned his degree, but said the university failed to investigate his complaint. "It seems to be the university's position that its employees can violate students' human and academic rights as long as that student eventually receives their degree," said Roy.

Citing privacy concerns, university spokesperson Caroline Milliard said she was unable to comment on the grievances raised by Roxburgh and Roy.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Ottawa duo launches women's magazine

Milieu magazine. Lifestyle blog aims for more than stereotypical mag material

LUCY SCHOLEY
lucy.scholey@metronews.ca

Gossip, fashion and how-to-please-your-man are common front-page fodder for women's magazines, but two Ottawa bloggers have started a new online website that aims to go beyond that.

Heather MacDonald and Ashleigh VanHouten launched milieu magazine on Wednesday at Wunderkammer Boutique on Dalhousie Street. Their women's lifestyle blog promises profiles on female business owners, health features and beauty product reviews.

"I think women are interested in reading, women are interested in local politics, women are interested in so many more diverse things and we just don't see that that's what's represented in a lot of women's magazines," said MacDonald.

Milieu targets women in their 20s to 40s. The tagline: "The discerning woman's magazine."

VanHouten is a PR consultant who is training for a fitness competition and blogs about her exercise and diet. Those who don't take interest in that could read MacDonald's article on DIY pillow-making or her recipe for coconut cream pie.

"It's kind of a nice juxtaposition," said MacDonald. "She'll talk about protein shakes and I'll talk about the latest wine trend."

Ashleigh VanHouten, left, and Heather MacDonald, have launched milieu magazine, a women's lifestyle blog. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

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Convenience stores.

Police pursue robbery suspect, smashed-up car

Police are looking for a man they believe is responsible for two convenience-store robberies in the city's south end and are hoping a broken windshield might point them in the right direction.

In both incidents, a man entered a store, made a demand of cash and fled with an undisclosed amount of money, according to police.

The first incident happened on May 15 at 8 p.m. at a convenience store in the 2300 block of St. Andrew Street in North Gower. The second incident happened on May 20 at 5:10 p.m. at a store in the 5500 block of Osgoode Main Street in Osgoode.

In the second incident, police say the robbery victim chased the suspect out the store and repeatedly struck the man's passenger-side windshield, causing damage. The suspect's car was described as possibly being a gold-coloured Nissan Altima.

The windshield is in need of repair, and police hope anyone who might spot the vehicle as described to call them.

The suspect is described as a Caucasian male, between 40-50-years-old, between six feet and six feet four inches tall, with a medium build and a potbelly, medium length salt and pepper hair and English speaking. He wore a light coloured baseball cap with an oval shaped logo. JOE LOFARO/METRO

Ottawa police released surveillance photos of a man they believe is responsible for two retail robberies in the city's south end. COURTESY OTTAWA POLICE

Barrhaven.

Police seek two suspects in alleged sexual-assault case

Ottawa police say a 19-year-old woman was sexually assaulted by two men in Barrhaven Wednesday morning.

The woman was walking near a green space between Claridge Drive and Longfields Drive at around 2 a.m. when the two men approached her and sexually assaulted her, according to police.

She was able to escape before neighbours heard a commotion and called 911.

When police arrived, they could not locate the suspects.

The suspects are described as Caucasian men in their mid 20s, wearing baggy pants possibly driving a small vehicle.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Ottawa Police Service Sexual assault and Child Abuse Unit at 613-236-1222 extension 5944 or Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477 (TIPS) or toll free at 1-800-222-8477.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

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DIY skateboard project keeping kids in school

Hands-on learning.
Teacher started class to re-engage students

LUCY SCHOLEY
lucy.scholey@metronews.ca

Michaela Domenico, an 18-year-old student at Frederick Banting Secondary Alternate Program, holds up her homemade longboard. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

Many students skip art class at Frederick Banting Secondary Alternate Program. But on Wednesday afternoon, a handful of teens sat at desks and painted homemade skateboards.

Art teacher Mary Williamson has started a skateboard shop course to "re-engage" those students who were ditching or uninterested in class. And judging by the 40 longboards and skateboards brightly painted for the school's open house and art show on Thursday, it has had some success.

Some students also partnered with Youth Net, a program at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario that helps young people with mental health issues. Those students based their skateboard designs on stories shared by youth in the program. They will eventually be sold at a fundraiser auction.

Many of the Frederick Banting students chose the school because the structure of a traditional public system does not suit their learning needs. Some have mental health or substance abuse issues that keep them from class.

But Williamson said attendance has been "amazing" for the course. She said she was inspired after a guest teacher brought a skateboard project to the school last year.

"It's hands-on learning. It's a chance to be creative," she said. "Plus they get to create a product that they made in the end. With the CHEO boards, they're doing something to help out other youth that are in similar situations to the students at this school."

The skateboards will be on display at Frederick Banting Secondary Alternate Program, at 1453 Main Road in Stittsville, on Thursday, May 29 from 1 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

Residents not happy with bus reroute plan

Residents in Hintonburg simulate what it will be like when 240 commuters try to cross Albert Street at rush hour to catch connecting buses when construction for the city's light rail transit begins this summer. The construction will reroute 2,500 buses onto Scott/Albert Street and residents worry about safety issues.

CATHERINE MCKENNEY/FOR METRO

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A dip on the city's dime

Council OKs free swim day at six pools

June 7 is National Fitness Day, and city council voted Wednesday to celebrate by making it cheaper to go get wet.

The city will offer two-for-one admission at all 21 of its pools, and one free session at six facilities.

The free swims will be held at the Bob MacQuarrie Recreation Complex, the Canterbury Recreation Complex, the Lowertown Pool, the Pinecrest Recreation Complex, the Richcraft Recreation Complex and the Kanata Leisure Centre.

The promotion will cost the city about $1500 for the day. Several councillors want to see free swims at more pools next year.

STEVE COLLINS/FOR METRO

Attempted murder

Bail decision coming in June for accused realtor

An Ottawa real estate agent facing two counts of attempted murder after he allegedly attacked his wife and daughter will learn next month if he will be released on bail.

Labib Khawas, 55, was arrested earlier this month after he reportedly cut off his daughter's finger in the attack. Both his wife and daughter were sent to hospital with serious injuries.

A justice of the peace is expected to decide whether or not to release him from custody on June 12.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

For more local news, visit metronews.ca

Council vote nixes height variance on Wellington

12-storey condo. Developer says he will appeal to OMB

STEVE COLLINS
ottawa@metronews.ca

City council refused to make an exception to height limits to allow a 12-storey condo development at Wellington West and Island Park Drive, despite support for the project from some neighbours and a vocal minority of councillors.

"I feel sad that we have ignored all those voices that came to planning committee and worked so hard to get this development to be something that they wanted to see in their neighbourhood," said ward Councillor Katherine Hobbs. "Instead, we face the challenge of maybe having a derelict lot on this site for another 20 years."

Quoted

"I feel sad that we have ignored all those voices that came to planning committee ..."

Coun. Katherine Hobbs

Mayor Jim Watson pointed out that only some area residents supported the exemption.

Councillor Peter Hume, who chairs the planning committee, cautioned that granting the height variance against the advice of city staff would put the city in a tight situation the next time a developer wants to bend the rules.

"If we allow this to go forward, that will be used against us like a club," he said.

Members of the finance committee also cited concerns about setting precedents earlier this month when they rejected an extraordinary request by Mizrahi Developments to cover the full cost of cleaning up the contaminated site.

Hobbs, who said the developer had made great efforts to consult with residents and get their support for the project, worried that council's decision doesn't encourage the collaborative approach.

"I hate that this particular example has sent a message to developers that there is absolutely no point in doing a consultation," she said.

Developer Sam Mizrahi said he will appeal the decision to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Conceptual rendering of Mizrahi Developments' proposed 12-storey condo project at 1445 and 1451 Wellington St. W. COURTESY MIZRAHI DEVELOPMENTS

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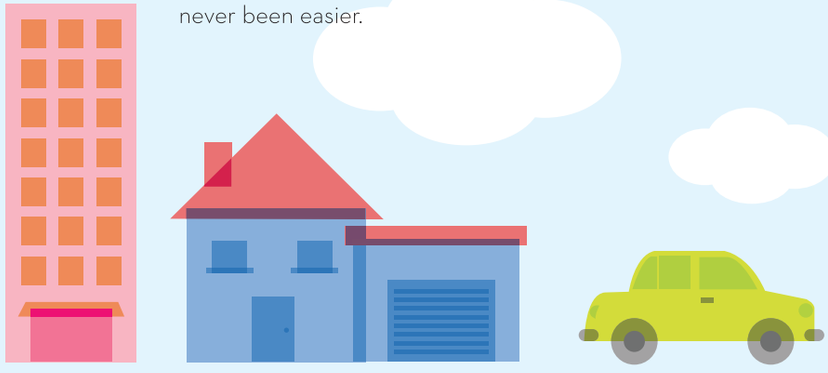

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Hudak defends party's jobs math

Ontario Progressive Conservative Party Leader Tim Hudak passes through rows of flowers as he tours Balfour Greenhouses during a campaign stop in Fenwick, Ont., on Wednesday. AARON LYNETT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak is adamant that the math behind his party's jobs strategy is accurate.

Hudak has made job creation the centrepiece of his election platform, promising a PC government would bring a million jobs to Ontario over eight years, although about half of those would be created through normal economic growth.

Hudak was forced to defend his numbers in Niagara Falls Wednesday when he was repeatedly asked if his party had misinterpreted information from a Conference Board of Canada report, which the Liberals have alleged resulted in the PCs vastly overinflating their job estimates.

Certain economists have also recently penned columns questioning the Tory math, focusing in particular on the possibility that the PCs confused the term "person years of employment" with permanent jobs.

But Hudak insisted his party's calculations, which he said were based on a "mountain of evidence," were sound.

Party officials later told reporters that they had used some data sources that dealt in person years of employment along with others that measured employment in different ways to come up with the jobs figures in their platform.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Wynne won't rule out teaming up with NDP

Premier Kathleen Wynne isn't ruling out teaming up with the New Democrats to form a government if the Progressive Conservatives win the most seats on June 12, but fall short of a majority.

The Liberal leader said her main focus now is working hard for the remainder of the campaign to ensure her party wins the most seats.

Once the voters decide, her party will "make that determination," she said Wednesday after visiting an elementary school in Markham, north of Toronto.

"I'm not ruling out anything except working as hard as I can over the next 16 days to make sure that we get to Queen's Park and we can implement our plan," she said.

Wynne said she's demonstrated that she can work in a minority parliament and promised to continue to do so if the Liberals fail to win a majority.

"So you need to look at what I've done over the past year and a bit — that's how I would function — but I am not going to pre-empt what the people of Ontario might decide on June 12."

Whatever the configuration of the next parliament will be, she'll bring forward her plan for the province and do everything in her power to make sure it gets implemented, Wynne said.

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, who has called the Liberals corrupt, was tight-lipped on the subject.

"I'm going to wait until June 12, until the people of this province make a decision about what kind of government they want and regardless of what decision they make it'll be the right decision ... and we'll deal with that outcome once it's upon us," she said.

In 1985, the provincial Liberals and NDP teamed up to replace the newly elected minority Tory government.

The Progressive Conservatives say voters deserve to know if Wynne intends to form a coalition government.

"What is clear is that Kathleen Wynne is so desperate to cling to power that she will do absolutely anything to keep her job," they said in a news release.

Public-opinion polls suggest it's a tight race between the Liberals and Conservatives, and there's a realistic possibility that Ontario will have another minority government.

THE CANADIAN PRES

Canadian spy agency collects personal info in name of cyberdefence

Privacy. Data, including names, email addresses, may be kept for 30 years

Canada's electronic spy agency says it gathers and sometimes keeps personal information — including names and email addresses of Canadians — as part of efforts to protect vital networks from cyberattacks.

Communications Security Establishment Canada maintains an information bank containing the personal information of "potentially any individual" who communicates electronically with a key federal computer network while CSEC is assessing its vulnerability.

Information in the bank — known as CSEC PPU 007 — is held for up to 30 years before being transferred to Library and Archives Canada, says a description in the federal Info Source guide, which lists the various categories of personal information held by the government.

"Personal information may be used to assess potential threats to information technology systems subject to the assessment, and to help ensure the security of these electronic systems," the notice says.

The listing sheds light on a little-known aspect of CSEC's work: threat assessments and technical analyses aimed at strengthening federal defences against foreign cyberattacks on government computers.

Records recently obtained under the Access to Information Act say CSEC planned to focus its cyberdefence operations in 2012-13 on its own computer networks and those of three other federal institutions: National Defence, Foreign Affairs and Shared Services Canada, which administers the federal secure communication channel, known as SC Net.

The Info Source listing says personal information collected by CSEC during cyberdefence efforts may include a person's full name, email address, Internet Protocol (IP) address and any incidental personal details contained in electronic routing codes, or metadata.

Information from the databank may be shared with domestic police agencies "or foreign bodies" in keeping with formal agreements, the listing says.

The foreign bodies are surely CSEC's Five Eyes partners — the U.S. NSA and similar agencies in Britain, Australia and New Zealand, said Wesley Wark, a visiting professor at the University of Ottawa.

Wark called it "remarkable" that information can be held for 30 years.

"What this material does not tell us, of course, is the extent of the personal information held as a result of cybersecurity activities," he noted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sorry, that's not how you become a polar bear

A black bear north of Shellbrook, Sask., decided to take a power nap atop a power pole last Friday after he escaped a pair of dogs. According to a SaskPower spokesperson, a customer alerted the company to the animal, and crews were then dispatched to check out the bedtime bear. "It's kind of an unusual thing," the spokesman said. "He did manage to get down from the pole safely, and is not injured as far as we know and didn't do any damage to the pole or cause any sort of power outage." COURTESY SASKPOWER

Manitoba

Lodge owner sorry for brochure that says not to give alcohol to natives

The owner of a Manitoba fishing lodge apologized Wednesday for comments in his visitors guide that said aboriginals can't handle alcohol.

"It was a total mistake and should not have been in there. It's an old trip planning guide that I've used for like 15 years and I had no idea that that was even in there," Brent Fleck of Laurie River Lodge said.

The lodge's Facebook page was filled with angry comments over a section of the brochure that warns guests not to give alcohol to aboriginal guides. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Fontana defends himself on stand at fraud trial

'Stupid' mistake.
RCMP charged London, Ont., mayor because they believe he was trying to skim $1,700 from public purse

SCOTT TAYLOR
Metro in London, Ont.

London, Ont., Mayor Joe Fontana walks to court Wednesday, Day 3 of his trial. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The judge presiding over the criminal trial of London, Ont., Mayor Joe Fontana has given the defence reason to believe that its case has made an impression.

After testimony ended Wednesday, Superior Court Justice Bruce Thomas told both sides to be prepared to focus their final submissions on only one of the three charges Fontana is facing.

Fontana is charged with fraud under $5,000, breach of trust by a public official and uttering forged documents in connection with a $1,700 cheque from Public Works Canada.

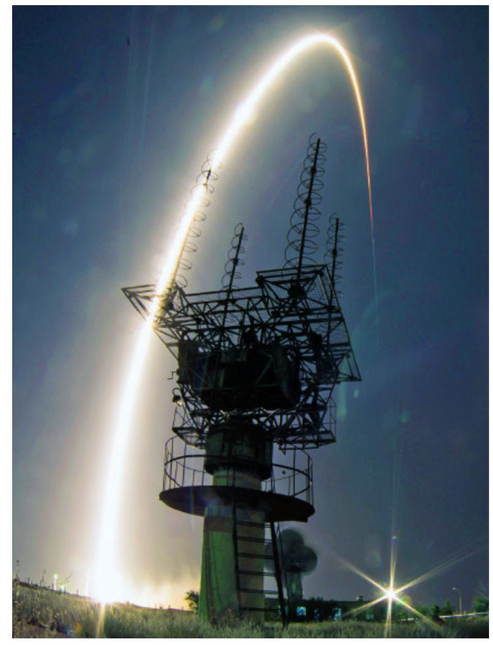
The Crown alleges he intended to pocket the money to make up for a deposit he paid on his son's June 2005 wedding reception at the Marconi Club.

But Thomas said on Wednesday that, should he accept the defence's argument that Fontana made a self-admitted "stupid" mistake and had no criminal intent, both sides should be prepared to argue whether Fontana forged a document.

Defence witnesses corroborated Fontana's story.

When Fontana testified in his own defence, he denied Assistant Crown Attorney Tim Zuber's accusation that he was trying to fool Ottawa bureaucrats into reimbursing him

The case wrap ups Thursday.



New crew off to space station

In this photo the Soyuz-FG rocket booster with the Soyuz TMA-13M space ship blasts off at the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The Soyuz booster rocket lifted off as scheduled at 1:57 a.m., local time, on Thursday, carrying a new crew to the International Space Station.
DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Somalia

Female soldiers joining the army

It's unusual to see a female in the military in traditionally conservative Somali society. But several determined women are joining the army.

Somali officials report female army recruits have increased following the ouster from the capital in 2011 of the Islamic extremist rebels of al-Shabab. According to estimates, about 1,500 women are now in the military of 20,000.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. policy

Drone strikes to continue: Obama

Barack Obama said Wednesday he will continue to "take direct action" by ordering drone strikes and capture operations on terrorists. But drone strikes will not occur unless there's "near certainty" civilians won't be harmed.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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New aim in climate change fight

Environmental groups have fired legal warning shots at major energy companies over their alleged role in funding climate change denial and blocking climate-friendly legislation.

Greenpeace and the World Wildlife Fund have sent letters to international and Canadian companies asking how they manage public communication on climate change.

They say spreading misinformation could leave company officers open to legal liability.

Keith Stewart of Greenpeace Canada says the letters are the first step in a long-term campaign to use the law to prevent the energy industry from delaying action on climate change.

He says the strategy was inspired by the ultimately successful campaign to make tobacco companies liable for sowing doubt about the health effects of their products.

Quoted

"We're laying the groundwork for court cases to come."

Keith Stewart of Greenpeace Canada

The letter has been sent to five Canadian companies: Suncor, Talisman Energy, Husky Energy, EnCana and Canadian Natural Resources.

It has also gone out to 45 multinationals, including many with operations or subsidiaries in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sara Schulz, World Vision's child health policy advisor, who is eight months pregnant, aims to urge world leaders to focus on the millions of "invisible" children and women

UNICEF's Canada

Maternal health summit. UN Children's Fund head lauds courage of Nigerian schoolgirls as conference opens

Efforts to improve the health of newborns and their mothers in poor countries must also include protecting them from violence, such as the terror caused by Boko Haram in Nigeria, says the head of the UN Children's Fund.

UNICEF chief Anthony Lake offered that assessment in an interview Wednesday with The Canadian Press prior to the opening of Stephen Harper's international conference on maternal, newborn and child health.

Lake lauded the prime minister's leadership in helping children and mothers in developing countries as he heaped praise on the courage of the teenage girls kidnapped by Boko Haram in northern Nigeria.

He said he would raise his concerns about child protection in a private meeting later Wednesday with Harper's international development minister, Christian Paradis.

"Paradis is passionate about the protection issue," Lake said in a wide-ranging interview.

As for Harper, Lake said: "He has led the way on this and Canada has delivered and is delivering, again 80 per cent of its commitment at Muskoka."

Harper unveiled the Muskoka Initiative at the G8 summit Canada hosted in 2010, and it has become the government's signature development priority. Harper committed $2.8 billion over five years to the issue in 2010, but a coalition of Canadian agencies is calling on him to up the ante to $3.25 billion.

At a side event Wednesday at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, the government announced a $98-million contribution to the UN World Food Program to improve nutrition, a key area that Canada's programming on kids and moms is targeting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

helps to set up a striking display in downtown Toronto, on Wednesday. The installation who die each year of preventable causes. WORLD VISION CANADA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

chief says delivers

Threat to girls' education

Kidnapping highlights larger issue

The Boko Haram kidnapping was on the minds of many at the three-day summit on maternal and child health, which will hear from philanthropist Melinda Gates, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the Aga Khan and Queen Rania of Jordan.

UNICEF chief Anthony Lake said the Nigerian kidnapping draws attention to one of the underlying causes of the health threats faced by young mothers and girls in impoverished, war-torn countries: the importance of overcoming the threat to girls' education posed by militant groups.

"The words almost fail me about how strongly I feel about this," said Lake, who has been a senior adviser to U.S. presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

"These are not victims. These are people who are acting with greater courage than I think you or I could probably summon under horrendous circumstances. And we shouldn't be condescending to them by saying we are saving them. We are supporting them."

Lake suggested western donors, weary of funding one crisis after another, should adjust their view of people in developing countries who persevere in the face of dire circumstances, including natural disasters.

Lake and other high-profile guests are to address the conference in the coming days, where Harper is expected to announce more funds.

Since 1990, the deaths of mothers in childbirth and among under age five children have been cut in half, but each year, 2.9 million newborn babies die, while 2.6 million are stillborn, mostly in African countries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reunion for Congolese adoptees

Thirty-one children who had been blocked for months from leaving Congo with their adoptive parents arrived in Rome on Wednesday aboard an Italian government plane for a joyful, long delayed reunion with their new families.

The children ran excitedly into their parents' arms at Ciampino airport after an overnight flight from the western African nation. Congo suspended all international adoptions last year, citing fears some children might later have been trafficked.

None of the allegations involved adoptions by Italians, and Italy's premier personally intervened in the case.

Maria Elena Boschi, an Italian government minister who accompanied the children from Congo, said "they went crazy when, from the plane's windows, they spotted their parents" waiting on the tarmac.

The mother of two of the children, girls ages 7 and 9, was ecstatic. "Happiness, happiness. I saw my two children. I kissed them and I hugged them," said Laura Mancinelli.

The parents were forced to leave Congo without their children when their visas expired, after spending months there waiting for final paperwork and hoping for a policy change from the Congolese government. The children stayed behind in the care of Italian nuns.

Boschi sported a braid woven into her hair by one of the girls during the flight. She said all the children are healthy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Skin-cancer survivors warn that it could happen to you

Take precautions. Though the incidence of some cancers is declining, melanoma cases are on the rise

Cancer survivor Caitlin Jones was an avid indoor tanner until she discovered that a spot on her forehead was basel cell carcinoma. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ian Anderson is one of the 2.5 per cent.

After his first diagnosis of melanoma, the Brampton, Ont., man was told that without immediate treatment he would be dead within two months. After his second, he was informed that if 100 people were in his shoes, 97.5 would not make it to the five-year mark, the standard measuring stick for beating a cancer.

Nineteen years after the second occurrence, Anderson, now 56, is still around to tell the tale — in his ever-present hat and sunscreen, which he slathers on religiously.

"I'm living proof that it can happen," says Anderson, who now counsels people diagnosed with melanoma.

Anderson's story is one of optimism, but also of reality. While he's living proof some lucky people can survive Stage 4 melanoma, he is also confirmation that people who don't take sun precautions can develop the deadly disease.

Another survivor, Caitlin Jones, was an avid indoor tanner until she discovered at age 23 that a spot on her forehead just below her hair line was basel cell carcinoma, which comprises about four out of five non-melanoma skin cancers.

Jones had surgery to remove a quarter-sized piece of skin to excise the cancer — a procedure that altered her view on tanning. She notes that around the same time some of her friends' parents were also dealing with skin cancers.

The Canadian Cancer Society worries that more people will hear the kinds of frightening diagnoses Anderson and Jones did in the future.

That's because skin cancers — particularly melanoma — are the most common in Canada. While the incidences of some cancers are actually going down, melanoma cases are on the rise, in both women and men. THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

Some estimates about cancer in Canada this year:

- **6,500.** Number of new melanoma cases. Of those, 1,050 Canadians will die from this form of cancer.
- **191,300.** Number of new overall cancer diagnoses. Of those, 76,600 Canadians will die from some sort of cancer.

PBDEs. Chemicals linked to lower IQ in children, B.C. researchers say

Researchers in B.C. say lower IQ and greater hyperactivity in young children appears to be significantly linked to a woman's exposure to flame retardants during early pregnancy.

The Simon Fraser University study found there's an association between women being exposed to a 10-fold increase of certain chemicals when their baby's brain is developing and a 4.5-point drop in the standard measure of intelligence.

The chemicals of concern are polybrominated diphenyl ethers, known as PBDEs, which have been widely used to prevent the spread of fire in furniture, carpet padding and car seats..

Researcher and health sciences Prof. Bruce Lanphear says North Americans are likely exposed to higher amounts of PBDEs than people in other parts of the world, and it could take decades to flush the chemicals from their environments.

The study suggests the impact of the chemicals is comparable to exposure to lead, which was once used in various products including paint and pipes in homes and offices.

The long-term study, published online in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives, followed more than 300 U.S. women from 16 weeks of pregnancy to when their children were five years old. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Top places to find PBDEs

1. Electronic TV components, mobile phones, printers and remote controls
2. Transportation electronic components, automobile fabrics and plastics
3. Household items such as kitchen appliances, fans, heaters/hair dryers, curtains and drapes and lamp sockets

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Buried treasure. Couple's gold-coin find valued at $11M goes up for sale

A treasure trove of rare gold coins discovered by a California couple out walking their dog has gone on sale.

The coins date from 1847 to 1894 and have been valued at $11 million.

Several coins were auctioned at the Old San Francisco Mint Tuesday, and one of them — an 1874 $20 double eagle that is usually worth $4,250 — sold for $15,000.

Don Kagin, whose firm is handling the sale, says most of the remaining 1,400 coins had gone on sale on Amazon.com and Kagins.com.

Some of the 1,427 Gold-Rush era gold coins. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

The couple found the coins last year buried under the shadow of a tree on their rural property.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exotic manure

Zoo believes people will buy anything

A zoo in southern Michigan is selling a composted mixture of manure produced by exotic animals.

Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek will sell compost from herbivores at a "Zoo Doo" event Thursday and June 5 for $25 US a load to zoo members and $30 US for nonmembers.

Zebras, antelopes and giraffes are contributing to the gardening aid. Horticulturist Frank Cummins says the price is a deal, since cow manure can sell for around $3 US a bag.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mom, 4 kids live to tell tale of deer that fell on minivan

Vehicle totalled, but occupants survive. Witnesses saw doe jump from overpass onto van travelling at over 110 km/h

A suburban Chicago woman is grateful her family is safe after a 90-kilogram deer leaped from an overpass, landing on their minivan as it travelled along a highway.

Heidi Conner tells The (Arlington Heights) Daily Herald that the doe came to rest in the middle of the family's Chevy on Sunday. She and her four children were travelling at 70 m.p.h. (112 km/h). She says the accident was bizarre, adding "nobody can believe this deer fell from the sky."

Illinois State Police say witnesses reported seeing the deer jump from an overpass onto the vehicle below.

Heidi Conner describes how a 90-kilogram deer leaped from an overpass and landed on her minivan as she and her four children travelled along an Illinois highway on Sunday. Conner says the accident totalled the van and caused minor injuries. RICK WEST/DAILY HERALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Conner says the crash totalled the van and caused minor injuries.

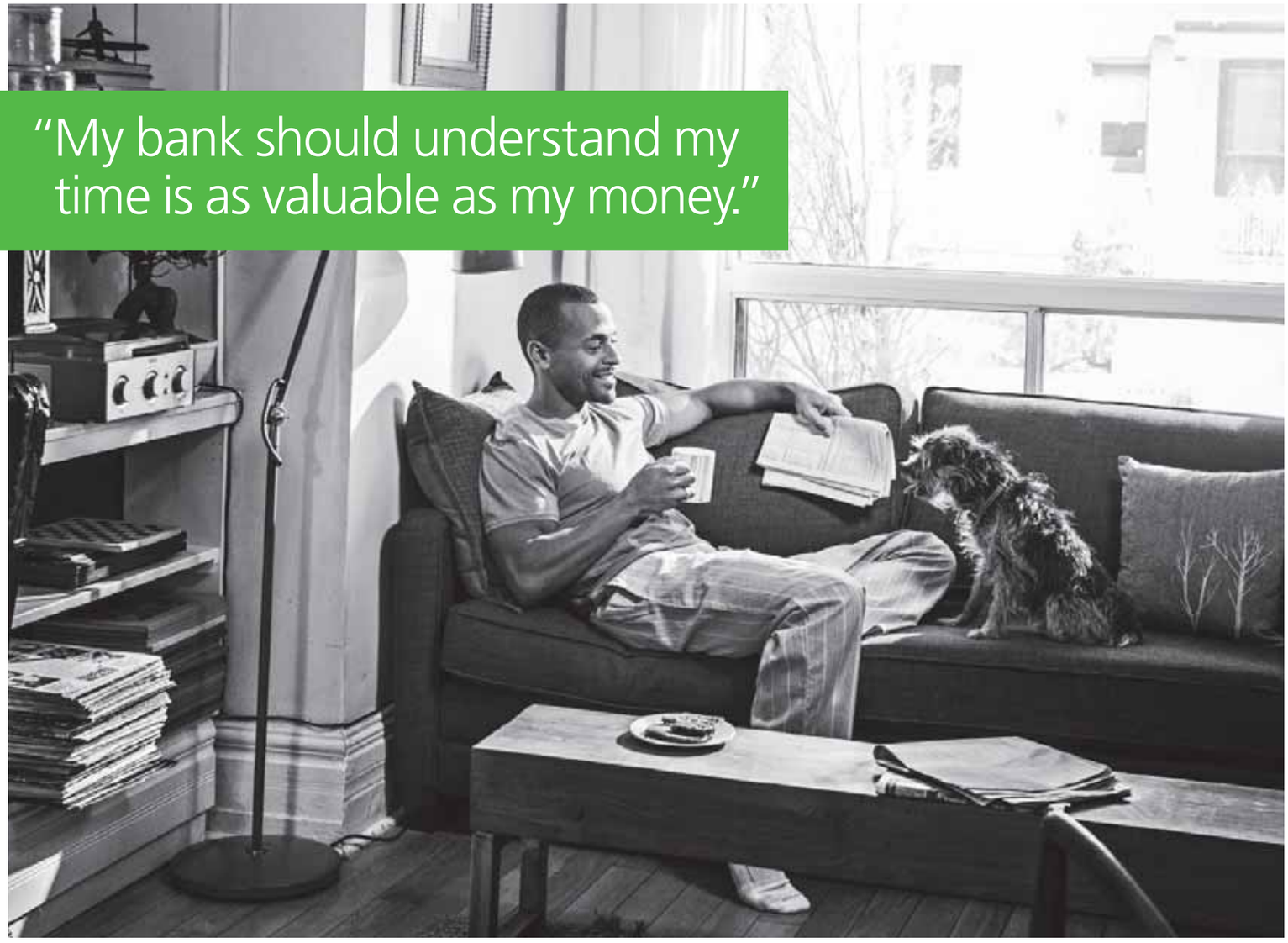
Police say the animal died.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Nobody can believe this deer fell from the sky."

Heidi Conner



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2010 spill. BP must pay claims while appealing

BP PLC must resume paying claims while it asks the U.S. Supreme Court to review its settlement with businesses over the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill, a federal appeals court panel said Wednesday.

The 2-1 judgment said the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will not stop payments while BP appeals the court's earlier ruling that businesses, under the settlement, don't have to prove they were directly harmed by the spill to collect money.

BP will ask the Supreme Court to review Wednesday's ruling, company spokesman Geoff Morrell said in an emailed statement.

The four-sentence judgment does not include detailed reasons for an order handed down a day earlier or for the dissent by Judge Edith Brown Clement, who also disagreed in the court's March 3 ruling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
91.95¢ (-0.12¢)

TSX
14,610.96 (-47.06)

OIL
$102.72 US (-$1.39)

GOLD
$1,259.30 US (-$6.20)

Natural gas: $4.60 US (+$0.10)
Dow Jones: 16,633.18 (-42.32)

Valeant Pharmaceuticals

Quebec company ups it bid price for Botox maker

Valeant Pharmaceuticals increased its hostile offer to buy Botox-maker Allergan on Wednesday and threatened to bypass the board by taking it directly to shareholders.

However analysts suggested, Valeant may have to raise its offer again.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yahoo kills the YouTube star? Marissa Mayer takes on her old employer

Yahoo is planning a YouTube rival. Due to launch this summer, the new video site will focus on attracting content creators through a greater potential to earn money.

According to Ad Age, the rival service is not only at an advanced stage of development, it had been scheduled to launch in April. However, the big reveal is being pushed back while contractual issues are addressed.

Yahoo's CEO, Marissa Mayer, used to be an executive at Google-owned YouTube.

While YouTube is by far the biggest video sharing site, Yahoo believes that it can attract producers and creators by offering a better split of advertising revenue. AFP

Google offers you licence to *not* drive

Stranger than science fiction. Sorry, no flying cars or transporters just yet, but Sergey Brin presents a pretty cool self-driving car prototype

The future is now. Here is a very early version of Google's prototype self-driving car. GOOGLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google will build a car without a steering wheel.

It doesn't need one because it drives itself.

The two-seater won't be sold publicly, but Google said Tuesday it hopes by this time next year, 100 prototypes will be on public roads. Though not driving very quickly — the top speed would be 25 miles per hour.

The cars are a natural next step for Google, which already has driven hundreds of thousands of miles in California with Lexus SUVs and Toyota Priuses outfitted with a combination of sensors and computers.

Those cars have Google-employed "safety drivers" behind the wheel in case of emergency. The new cars would eliminate the driver from the task of driving.

No steering wheel, no brake and gas pedals. Instead, buttons for go and stop.

"It reminded me of catching a chairlift by yourself, a bit of solitude I found really enjoyable," Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google, told a Southern California tech conference Tuesday evening of his first ride, according to a transcript.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stock- market investors could be chanting olé, olé

Enjoy it while it lasts: Investors had as much to celebrate as Spanish soccer fans after the country's World Cup win against the Netherlands in 2010, but market gains for winning nations tend to be short-lived. ARTURO RODRIGUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Winning the soccer World Cup can bring instant rewards to that country's stock market investors. But they better be quick, as the post-victory rally doesn't last long.

That's the conclusion of investment bank Goldman Sachs, which published a wide-ranging report on the World Cup and its economic impact.

Goldman Sachs analysts found "a clear pattern of outperformance by the winning team in the weeks after the World Cup final." On average, the victorious country's stocks outperform the global market by 3.5 per cent in the first month, the investment bank's strategy team said.

The conclusions are based on statistics since 1974, when West Germany beat the Netherlands, and appear to be fairly consistent over time. Only Brazil failed to outperform after its win in 2002, largely because the football-mad nation was consumed by recession and a currency crisis.

"In the absence of a severe economic crisis, the winner tends to enjoy the spoils of success in the markets for a brief period at least," Peter Oppenheimer, Goldman Sachs' chief global equity strategist, said in the report published late Tuesday.

A notable exception was Spain, whose stock market rallied 5.7 per cent in the month after the national team won in 2010 its first World Cup — even though the country, along with many of its peers in Europe, was in the midst of an economic and financial crisis.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD?

HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Is the world getting better or worse?

It's a question that's been debated for decades by a diverse array of middle-aged white men with post-secondary educations. Happy that my people are getting a voice, I've given the issue a lot of thought myself.

I'm torn. On one hand, the world sucks; on the other, it sucks to a lesser magnitude than any time since the Space Odyssey monolith taught us how to brain our fellow monkeys.

The world feels like it's getting worse, but that's just human nature. It's the same phenomenon that allows us to believe that every generation but our own is the one destroying the Earth.

When we were young, we convinced ourselves that our generation was the most hard-done-by ever, which is why the peace and prosperity of the early 1990s still managed to produce teens sulking to Nirvana and Smashing Pumpkins. Then we got older and convinced ourselves that young people were out of control. I'm reaching the age where friends talk about "the teens on the bus" or "the kids at the mall" as if they are a consolidated trade union with the united goal of making life miserable for normal people. Whether we blame the selfish baby boomers or the irresponsible youth, everyone thinks the world is spinning out of control. But what is the reality?

Here are some of the key arguments when weighing Louis Armstrong's "What a wonderful world" against the Wicked Witch of the West's "Oh what a world!"

Resolved — the world is getting better

Pro:

*The intertwined world economy means it's rare for two countries with McDonald's to go to war, most likely because people are too winded to lift their weapons and too big to wedge themselves into their tank holes.

* Thanks to the miracle of the Internet, literally anyone with a minor rash can spend a few minutes online and confidently diagnose themselves with cancer.

* Game of Thrones is so awesome right now.

* Previously intractable problems such as extreme poverty can now be solved with a clever hashtag.

* The world is united as never before thanks to its shared hatred of Kim and Kanye.

Con:

* While countries with McDonald's rarely fight each other, hundreds of thousands have died in the Denny's Wars.

* "Statisticians" will try to tell you that life expectancy is getting higher, but did you know that every single person on Earth is closer to death today than they were yesterday?

* YouTube comments.

* The government knows everything about me, including my PIN, my taste for online rap battles, and that when I'm in a rush I use Head & Shoulders as impromptu bodywash, despite the anatomical specificity of its name.

* Genetically modified strawberries are watery and flavourless.

Five arguments for and five against, so you can see why I haven't yet reached a conclusion. My gut feeling is that the world is better than it's ever been, but that climate change is a sizable wild card that could drastically increase violent weather, destroy the world's agriculture and sink entire cities. Darn kids.

ZOOM

Made of spur parts

Black Hawk is a scrap-iron sculpture of a life-size plow horse pulling a single bottom plow, made by 43-year-old artist John Lopez, based in Lemmon, S.D. JOHN LOPEZ/REX FEATURES

South Dakota

Artist turns metal into animals

The heavy beasts look like they're up for a scrap — scrap metal, that is. These sculptures are the work of artist John Lopez, who welds the pieces from abandoned farm machinery. Based in Lemmon, S.D., the 43-year-old has created full-size replicas of animals such as a horse, buffalo and even a triceratops dinosaur. MWN

Artist's viewpoint

"I moved to my uncle's ranch to make a family cemetery. But after finishing a perimeter fence I ran out of material and, being 35 miles from the nearest town, had to search for usable scrap iron on site. It led on to working with the metal as art material."

John Lopez, scrap-metal artist

Favorite weld-work

'The plow horse is a part of our past'

Out of all the critters welded, the scrap-iron plow horse named Black Hawk is Lopez's most prized creation. "The plow horse is a symbol worldwide that we all understand to be a part of our past and history. We depended on them so much before modern machinery was invented," the artist says. "I think Black Hawk is the one I am most proud of." MWN

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In this issue, you can find AR enhancements on pages 21 and 22 in Scene and page 30 in Sports

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MetroTube

They're happy tears

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

Listen. This is a crucial warning.

This video of Mr. G, a very sad and lonely goat being reunited with his best pal, Jellybean the burro, is a festival of tears. Not lock-yourself-indoors-with-Enya-songs-and-a-tub-of-ice-cream tears, mind you. More the redemptive kind.

So as long as you're OK with being a little tear-streaked — or at least misty — in public, then by all means, go right ahead.

One last warning: Mute the sound if you don't like terrible music. (AnimalPlace/YouTube)

YOUTUBE

metro

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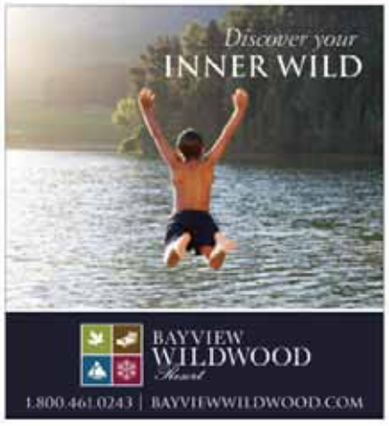

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Before you let that friend of a friend give you your first tattoo...

Tattoo Hero. Local startup connects tattoo aficionados with artists and shops

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jen Traplin
ottawa@metronews.ca

Hero founders Brandon Waselnuk (left), Minh Dao and Steve Tannahill . CONTRIBUTED

An Ottawa company focused on connecting tattoo enthusiasts with shops and artists is working to make a name for itself within the tight-knit tattoo community.

Tattoo Hero was born out of Startup Weekend Ottawa 2012, the local branch of the global network that organizes events where people pitch ideas for new companies. Tattoo Hero won first place in 2012, a prize that includes a $1,000 legal package and office space for three months at Invest Ottawa.

On top of the win, the company's three co-founders, Brandon Waselnuk, Minh Dao and Steve Tannahill, also recently returned from Montreal where they spent three months participating in the startup accelerator program FounderFuel.

Tattoo Hero is still very much in its infancy and isn't turning a profit yet. Tannahill says he and his colleagues have been focused on gradual growth — finding reputable artists and building credibility within the tattoo community.

"A lot of our focus has been growing that aspect of the business, so there hasn't been a lot of opportunity, in that sense, for profitability," he explains.

But that could change soon.

Tannahill and his team are in the midst of developing software that could help tattoo shops better organize and manage their stores — for example, helping artists deal with last-minute cancellations or no-shows.

"We're hoping that, through notifications, we can reduce the cancellations or at least the artist can get more notice from their client that they are cancelling so they can fill those spots and make sure they're not losing appointment time," he says.

Of course, Tattoo Hero isn't just for artists; it's also beneficial for tattoo aficionados, offering articles, video and other content covering topics ranging from where getting a tattoo will hurt the most on your body to the process of talking to an artist for a consultation.

It also allows users to browse images of tattoos for inspiration, connect with artists and share photos of their ink, all useful tools, says Tannahill, for tattoo newbies, especially.

"Without actually knowing someone directly associated with an artist or having someone mention an artist, it's kind of hard to discover them. You can't simply do an Ottawa Instagram search for tattoo shops and then all these tattoo shops show up. We're trying to streamline that process so that it's a little easier for someone who is really new to tattooing or doesn't have friends who get tattoos to discover the artists."

For more, visit tattoohero.com.

Quoted

"You can't simply do an Ottawa Instagram search for tattoo shops and then all these tattoo shops show up."

Steve Tannahill, co-founder, Tattoo Hero

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See that symbol? It means you can scan this image with your Metro News app to watch Maya Angelou reciting her poem On the Pulse of Morning at Bill Clinton's first presidential inauguration.

Maya Angelou: 1928-2014

In this 1971 photo, Renaissance woman and cultural pioneer Maya Angelou poses with a copy of her book, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, one of the most widely read memoirs of the past few decades. Angelou died Wednesday morning at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C., her son, Guy B. Johnson, said in a statement. The 86-year-old had been a professor of American studies at Wake Forest University since 1982. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lost tapes. Queen to release tracks featuring Mercury

Queen are to release new tracks featuring Freddie Mercury's vocals by the end of the year, the British rock group's guitarist Brian May said.

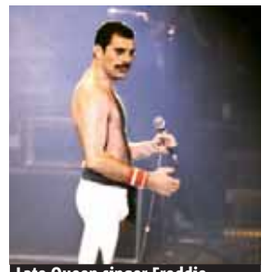
The songs, dating back to the 1980s, will be released on a compilation album, May told BBC radio.

Lead singer Mercury died of AIDS-related pneumonia in 1991. Four years later, Queen released Made In Heaven, their final studio album with the iconic frontman, painstakingly constructing some fresh songs from lines of vocals he left behind.

But May said more tapes in the vault had come to light.

"We found a few more tracks with Freddie singing and all of us playing, and they're quite beautiful, so people will be hearing this work towards the end of the year," the 66-year-old said.

"We're going to put out an album which probably is called Queen Forever, and it's a compilation, but it will have this new material which nobody in the world has ever heard. And I think people will really enjoy it."


Late Queen singer Freddie Mercury. JEAN-CLAUDE COUTAUSSE/AFP

In their current form, the songs do not have the bombastic Queen sound, but May and drummer Roger Taylor — bassist John Deacon retired in 1997 — are giving them the band's trademark anthem touch.

"It wouldn't have been if we hadn't done this restoration job on it because you have to start from scratch really, because we only had scraps," May said. "But knowing how it would've happened if we'd finished it then, I can sit there and make it happen, with modern technology." AFP

California

Judge dismisses guardianship case over Paul Walker's daughter

Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner David J. Cowan dismissed a guardianship case over Meadow Rain Walker after hearing from Amy Nieman, an attorney appointed to represent the 15-year-old.

Nieman said Meadow Walker's mother, Rebecca Soteros, has been spending time with her daughter while receiving treatment for alcoholism and is currently sober.

She says the teenager is being cared for by a nanny who has helped raise Meadow Walker for roughly two years.

Paul Walker's mother petitioned for a guardianship over her granddaughter but asked to dismiss it, citing Meadow Walker's wishes.

The Fast & Furious franchise star died in a November car crash. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

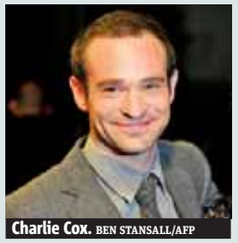
Netflix

Charlie Cox to play Daredevil

Online content platform Netflix has cast British actor Charlie Cox in the lead for its new production on Marvel's blind superhero. The 13-episode miniseries will arrive in 2015.

Cox is the first recruit for Netflix's new collection of four miniseries, each featuring a different Marvel superhero. The platform plans to introduce its subscribers to Jessica Jones, Iron Fist and Luke Cage.

Daredevil battles injustice both during the day, as a lawyer named Matt Murdock, and at night as his superhero alter ego with hyper-developed senses. AFP


Charlie Cox. BEN STANSALL/AFP

True Detective writer reveals Season 2 details

California screamin'.
New setting, characters planned for next season

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News in New York City

Woody Harrelson and Matthew McConaughey in HBO's True Detective. HBO

HBO's True Detective took the police procedural highbrow. Instead of wooden acting and formulaic plots, True Detective brought us great performances by Woody Harrelson and Matthew McConaughey and one knotty, decade-spanning mystery. It was a huge hit.

However, the series' decade-long structure made it next to impossible for leads McConaughey and Harrelson to return for a second season (plus they're pretty busy being movie stars). True Detective writer Nic Pizzolatto confirmed this week that Season 2 will ditch the Louisiana setting entirely and start fresh with a new cast. "It takes place in California — not Los Angeles but some of the much lesser-known venues of California — and we're going to try to capture a certain psychosphere ambiance of the place, much like we did in Season 1," he told NPR.

Pizzolatto says that the new season of True Detective will have three leads instead of two. According to unofficial casting breakdowns obtained by Deadline, the three characters you'll soon be obsessed with are a 40-something male detective/cop, a 20-something male cop, and — be still my heart — a 30-something female detective.

So who will the new cast be? Rumour had it that Jessica Chastain would play a role, but she's since confirmed that she turned it down. Brad Pitt, Josh Brolin, and Taylor Kitsch have also been mentioned. However, Pizzolatto says it's too soon to discuss.

"The characters are all new, but I'm deeply in love with each of them," he said on NPR. "We've got the entire series broken out with a couple of scripts, and we'll probably start casting in earnest in the coming months."

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photograph below with your Metro News app to watch the trailer for The Love Punch.

How to elicit Piercing laughter

Pierce Brosnan and Emma Thompson star in The Love Punch, which is in theatres now. CONTRIBUTED

The Love Punch.
Brosnan has no problem laughing at his age or past roles

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Pierce Brosnan isn't afraid to poke fun at himself or his age — or his time playing James Bond and Thomas Crowne — in the pursuit of a good laugh. Plus, going for those laughs opposite Emma Thompson doesn't hurt. Brosnan and Thompson play bickering exes in writer-director Joel Hopkins' The Love Punch, about a regular couple who get carried away with a jewel heist as revenge against the callous French banker who tanked their retirement fund.

It's hard to believe this is the first time you've teamed up with Emma Thompson. How was it working with her?
Oh, it was out-of-the-box great. Such a memorable summer it was. We hit the ground running Day One, scene one, like we'd been working together forever. We'd wanted to work with each other for many years. There's just a real fondness for each other, and from my point of view she's just such a gifted lady — beautiful, gifted, kind, gracious, affable. If she was here I wouldn't get a word in edgewise. She is just wildly entertaining.

This film sneaks in some fun nods to your time as James Bond and other previous work.
I certainly got the jokes within the jokes — dressing up in a wetsuit, scaling a rubber mountain, stealing a diamond. Of course. If not now, when? Joel and I had talked often about this kind of humour and this kind of film. So all of the ingredients were just ripe for the doing.

It is odd, though, to see Timothy Spall in a wetsuit.
It's quite a sight to behold. They gave him the wrong size wetsuit. They had to slit it up the back — you can actually see it in the film if you freeze it. Poor Timothy, he was miserable. And they gave him a threeply, and it was a summer's day. It was so hot.

The locations did seem fairly pleasant.
Bliss, utter joy. It started in the South of France at the Carlton Hotel. I woke up, it was a gorgeous morning, I fed the seagulls that came to my little balcony suite that I had at the top of the hotel. I went down and we all met each other and we started the play. They had lovely French lunches where there's wine — they actually sat us out front on the Croisette. Then we went back to work and continued our day, and that's how the shoot went. So it was very civilized, very otherworldly romantic. I mean, it's a retro-type film.

How do you get the right tone for a screwball comedy like this?
It has to start with sincerity and honesty and a good story. It has to be founded within the truthfulness of character and storytelling so that you can then go off the rails but always come back to it. And in this case, this man is middle-aged, divorced, playing the field with women that are too young for him — that man-boy type mentality. There was a good, strong foundation in that. So for me it was always that, and then ... wetsuits.

Quoted

"I certainly got the jokes within the jokes — dressing up in a wetsuit, scaling a rubber mountain, stealing a diamond. Of course, if not now, when?"

Pierce Brosnan on comedic nods to his prior role as James Bond

Miley Cyrus ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Miley to Billy Ray: A reality show wouldn't be the Best of Both Worlds

Oh, how the tables have turned. While Miley Cyrus got her start in entertainment thanks to the guidance of dad Billy Ray Cyrus, it now looks like she's advising him on his career decisions. "Billy Ray has turned down what must be his sixth reality show offer in the last four years because Miley has been very strict with her parents about not doing them, even though they have been offered a fortune by all the big players, including Bravo, Lifetime and E!, to open up their home to cameras," a source tells Radar Online. "Miley would much rather do a Christmas special or a concert at the Hollywood Bowl with her dad rather than watch him embarrass himself like Bruce Jenner on TV every week." Apparently the offers were getting lucrative enough to be very, very tempting, the source says. "But ultimately she was very thankful they came to an understanding that it would be a bad idea."

Charlize Theron loving the single life at 38 years old

Charlize Theron has never been married and she couldn't be happier about it. "I'm sure some people would be like, 'I would never want to have that life.' I'm sure there's a lot of aspects to my life that a lot of people wouldn't want. Like the fact that I'm single at 38. That's not necessarily what a lot of women want," she tells Esquire U.K. "But I'm just saying, a life is good if it's the life that you want. I am living my life in a way that if tomorrow it ended — and I hope not, because I have a kid — but if it did, this was the life that I really wanted to live. But I work at that, you know?"

Charlize Theron

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Uh oh! Video surfaces of 1D's Zayn and Louis smoking pot

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Ah, a squeaky clean pop group's first big scandal. Someone put this in the photo album: Video surfaced this week of One Direction stars Louis Tomlinson and Zayn Malik smoking a joint in a van.

The Daily Mail has the full video. Louis, who's also the cameraman, says that the group are on their way out of Peru. Marijuana is not particularly legal in Peru, although possession of under eight ounces is decriminalized, and Louis makes clear that he knows what they're doing is not exactly kosher. While filming their police motorcycle escort, Louis jokes, "He's having a look. He's thinking, 'I'm sure I can smell an illegal substance in there,' and he's hit the nail on the head."

Zayn, on the other hand, is a less chatty stoner. He doesn't say much, just smokes, and beams, and chants "Mary J. Blige" in falsetto.

So world, are we going to be shocked by this? I know it's illegal and all, but at this point it's barely illegal most places. I think I'd be more shocked if two teenish dudes weren't smoking pot than if they were. Plus, they just seem so very proud to be Big Boys Doing Drugs that it's a little hard to stay mad at their cute little faces. I imagine those same faces have gotten them out of every scrape they've ever been in. OK, now I'm getting mad again.

Denise Richards

Denise Richards house-hunting after Charlie Sheen kicks her out of her home

Denise Richards and her children are apparently on the hunt for new digs after ex-husband Charlie Sheen reportedly kicked them out of the house in which they'd been living and sold it to a friend, according to the National Enquirer. Sheen initially purchased the home for Richards, but his lawyers "have been working with Denise on vacating the premises," a source says. "Charlie has wanted Denise out of the gated community — where he also lives — for months, and his porn star fiancée, Brett Rossi, has been pushing for it, too." Sheen and Richards have been clashing lately over child support and how much time Sheen can spend with the children they share.

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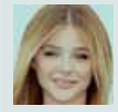

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PLUS HOMES

Spring, how I love hue so

We've got you covered this season in the brightest and boldest the rainbow has to offer, as oranges and blues tie for first place as fashion's dominant tones for the warmer weather

ELIZABETH BEDDALL
Metro World News

Orange is the new everything

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GUESS CORAL SMOCK, $29.50, GUESS.CA

OLD NAVY MAXI DRESS, $42.94, OLDNAVY.CA

Blue is the coolest colour

JONES NEW YORK BLOUSE, $89, THEBAY.COM

AVIVA CHANDELIER EARRINGS, $54, STELLADOT.COM

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The boys are back in tropicals

GAP SHORTS, $49.95, GAPCANADA.CA

BANANA REPUBLIC SHORTS, $74, BANANAREPUBLIC.CA

H&M SHORTS, $34.95, HM.COM/CA

Generation excellent

A very Coupland collection

Douglas Coupland and Roots have teamed up for a new capsule collection of clothes inspired by the author, artist and Canadian cultural icon. The collection, released this week, was inspired by Coupland's visual work and coincides with his Vancouver Art Gallery exhibition Douglas Coupland: everywhere is anywhere and anything is everything. For more information, visit canada.roots.com. METRO

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Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Jessica Simmiss

Age: 28

Occupation: Clothing stylist/personal shopper

What she's wearing
American apparel bomber, TOPSHOP matching crop and skirt and necklace, American Apparel thigh highs, shoes from B2 and Aldo bag.

Her inspiration
"Completely mood inspired. If it's furry, velvet and aggressive I already own it."

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If you enjoy being out in the sun, then you better be educated about sun protection. You've probably used SPF creams and sprays, but there's a new product on the market. Go online to Trends Report to learn about a U.S. company that claims it is has invented the world's first drinkable sunscreen.

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Photo by Irene, Instagram

A garment that grows

Breathing room is back on trend. Behold the expandable dress that gives you back your personal space

Don't mess with this dress. PROVIDED

Sometimes earphones, a tablet or a good old newspaper just isn't enough to protect your personal space on an overcrowded subway. That's where the Personal Space Dress comes to the rescue. The outfit, which includes in-built sensors to detect any pesky space invaders, unfolds and expands like an umbrella to keep any undesirables at bay, only to retract when personal space has been restored. Kathleen McDermott's formidable creation wasn't actually designed for everyday use. In fact, it's a work of art designed to highlight our relationship between wearable technology and the physical world. Here, the Hong Kong-based artist tells Metro about the dress that is a growing sensation.

Is this a serious solution to personal space problems?
No, it's actually a piece of art. All of the pieces in my Urban Armor project deal with issues that are happening in public spaces. One of my interests is the relationship between technology and the body. A lot of wearable devices are focusing on the way you relate to your virtual world, whereas these devices are relating to the physical world.

This could be a polite way of people silently saying, "Don't stand too close to me!" Is it a solution to unwanted intimacy?
They're meant to be funny but they're not meant to be hyperliteral. I don't think they're viable solutions to societal problems but some people think they are. Some people go, "I would wear that ..."

Some women feel threatened on public transport, so will this keep women safe?
I wasn't thinking about threats; it's about how you have a knee-jerk reaction when someone comes into your space. Maybe you have a reaction to move away, but instead of you moving away, the dress does it for you and it does it in a much more exaggerated way. The dress is a part of the relationship — it's a kind of third force.

Thread-ening

"Maybe you have a reaction to move away, but instead of you moving away the dress does it for you and it does it in a much more exaggerated way."
Kathleen McDermott
Creator of the Personal Space Dress

You've designed a 'Miss-My-Face' veil that protects you from CCTV and an 'Auto Filter' scarf that protects the wearer from pollution, so what's next?
The next project is going to relate to words that make you cringe. Everybody has a word that makes them twitch. I've found out that my sister has a really exaggerated reaction to the word 'moist'. It's kind of gross.
METRO

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Q: WITH THE WARMER WEATHER FAST APPROACHING, WHAT ARE THE KEY ITEMS TO HAVE IN MY CLOSET THAT WILL MAKE SUMMER STYLING A BREEZE? – H.T.

A: Summer is the easiest season to style for because you can get your wardrobe down to a science. Your best bet is to have a fedora handy for casual days: this hat can be paired with a multitude of different outfits including a maxi dress, a tank and a pair of shorts, or a t-shirt! Maxi dresses are easy because they constitute a whole outfit in themselves, and to change it up go with a tank top or blouse tucked into a flowy skirt. Don't forget to accessorize!

Q: I'M GOING ON VACATION AND I WANT MY OUTFITS TO BE TRENDY BUT FUNCTIONAL FOR ACTIVITIES. HOW DO I FIND A HAPPY MEDIUM? – L.M.

A: Finding a way to take on daily activities while still looking chic is definitely a challenge, but not an impossible one! Make sure that you choose breathable clothing that puts comfort first, but style as a close second. A cotton scarf, a tank, and a skirt paired together can serve the dual purpose of looking great and also functioning well in the heat of an activity.

Q: WHAT IS THE HOTTEST PURSE FOR SUMMER? SIZE AND COLOUR PLEASE! – A.B.

A: When it comes to picking out a purse for summer, the sky is the limit! You have a plethora of colours, sizes and styles available to you this season, so we would definitely mix it up instead of committing to just one. This season's most popular colours are orange, emerald green, and royal blue, so try to incorporate those colours into your wardrobe. Aldo, Winners and H&M have you covered for all the latest styles and colours!

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Outdoor rugs more stylish than ever

The outdoor floor.
Weave a summer spell with colourful runners and natural grass rugs

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

An outdoor rug can offer more than just comfort underfoot. It can also lighten, brighten and freshen up a dull outdoor space. Fashioned after indoor styles, an outdoor rug can help make your adjoining outdoor space's decor reflect your indoor style — a great way to extend the feeling of your home during warm weather months.

Size: Choose a size of rug that helps to define a sitting area. As in choosing an area rug for the inside of your home, make sure the front legs of your patio furnishings sit on the rug. This will create the perimeter of your outdoor room no matter how large your outdoor space.

Juice up the patio with a shot of orange for the summer months. Miami Lattice Outdoor Rug, 5 x 8 ft., $69, UrbanBarn.com. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Shape: On a small or squared-shaped deck, consider using a round rug to add a soft line to the outdoor seating space. Consider runner-length carpets for long skinny balconies or a series of square rugs to help define various small areas on the balcony.

Colour: A fashionably coloured rug will help to add personality and create a focal point in a space without a view or other focus.

Neutral and less colourful rugs are perfect to tie a seating plan together without taking away from colourful furnishings.

Materials: Most outdoor rugs are made of synthetic fibres like olefin or polyester and plastic. There are also natural grass weave rugs. These are most suited for covered areas such as balconies or porches.

Although made for outdoors, never dismiss the idea of using an outdoor rug inside your home if you need a durable and affordable carpet. Children's rooms, arts and crafts areas and busy entryways are just a few areas that would fare well with an attractive yet durable carpet.

If planning a special dinner party outside, why not bring your inside rug out and use it for the night? Remembering to bring it inside at the end of the party is most likely the hardest part.

Floor 'em with groovy Union Jack design

Keep calm and confuse your house guests about where they are. Fun and bold Union Jack Outdoor Jockey Red 96 x 120 in. rug, $471, HomeDepot.ca.

Try the round carpet treatment

Add some curve to a boxy-looking patio. Courtyard 6 ft. 7 in. round rug, Natural Terra, $222, eCarpetGallery.com.

Water ionizer greener solution for pond lovers

DIY. Eco-friendly solution keeps pond life sparkling clean

Nothing adds a perfect touch of summer to a patio or garden quite like the soothing look and sound of a backyard pond. But as most pond owners know, it's a season-long struggle to keep the water looking clean and sparkling, instead of cloudy and sickly. The easy, non-chemical solution to pond preservation is a water ionizer, which uses natural minerals to keep a water scene clean, green, and perfect for pet fish.

How to install

The eco-friendly apparatus is a small but worthwhile investment. It comes together with a few easy-to-install parts: A flow chamber, a copper probe, and a control panel. The flow chamber will be connected to the pond's water circulation pump and the copper probe in order to create a low-voltage electrical current. The current creates copper ions, which are then dispersed throughout the pond water and reduce the build-up of algae. The control panel can be used to set the amount of copper ions being produced, depending on the size of the pond.

Make your koi jump for joy: Use a water ionizer to maintain naturally healthy backyard aquaculture. ISTOCK

Creating a balance

While the water ionizer prevents the build-up of algae, using it too aggressively may kill the good bacteria, which are essential for the plants and animals in the pond. Making sure that the right amount of copper ions are being deposited can be done by testing the pH level in the pond (it should be between 7.2 and 7.6). Small, occasional use of household cleaners such as bleach may also be used to speed up the effects of the water ionizer without harming wildlife. Chlorine is not recommended, since it may stain the lining of the pond.

Litmus test

7.2-7.6

The ideal pH level for a pond.

More backyard solutions

For more backyard solutions, tune in to Yard Crashers, Wednesdays at 10 p.m. ET/PT on DIY Network Canada.

Keep it clean

The copper probes for the water ionizer should also be checked on a monthly basis to make sure that they're clean and working properly. Depending on how big or crowded the pond is, they may have to be replaced part-way through the season. Remember that regular maintenance is still very important. Be sure to keep the pump and filter clean, and occasionally vacuum the floor of the pond in order to keep it glistening and healthy.

ENJOY YOUR HOME RENOVATION

Archwood can help make it a pleasant experience

CONTRIBUTED

There are familiar sounds you associate with home renovation — hammers, drills, saws. But laughter?

It's the difference Leslie, a longtime customer of Archwood Construction, notices when owner Leonel Lima is on the job.

"I've talked to a lot of people who've done home renovations and they don't end up laughing very much during the process," she says. "I find that when Leonel's around we are constantly laughing and enjoying the experience of being around him."

Over the years, Leslie has hired Lima to work on houses and condos, on bathrooms and kitchens and more. She says she appreciates both the reliability of his estimates on a project and his determination to make sure she is completely satisfied.

"One of the things I love about Leonel is when I'm not happy with it — and that's rare — but when I'm not happy with something, he wants to do everything he can to fix it."

And then there's the work, which Leslie confides looks a lot more expensive than it is.

"Leonel has a way of taking what would be otherwise stock cabinetry that you might get from IKEA or Home Depot or Rona, and adding millwork to it to make it look like custom woodwork. I constantly get compliments from people who come into my house and say to me, 'Wow, that kitchen must have cost you a fortune.'"

Lima's next scheduled job for Leslie is trim-work on her fireplace. "When I have a project, I don't dread it. I look forward to working with him, and I think that's the big difference between working with Leonel and working with other contractors. And I have worked with other contractors, so I do have a point of comparison. I just think that he's a really pleasant, easy guy to work with."

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Al fresco gets into a vegan state of mind

This recipe serves four. TRACEY KUSIEWICZ/FOODIE PHOTOGRAPHY.

Cookbook of the Week

For barbecues, backyards and beaches

There is something about eating outside, so it's no surprise that al fresco dining is becoming popular.

In Vegan al fresco, Carla Kelly prepares elegant vegan dishes for outdoor dining. The book includes prep and cooking times, advice on portability, and menu suggestions for special occasions.

Split into sections such as Sandwiches and Spreads, On the Grill, and Ready Built Salads, it includes recipes for Samosa Spring Rolls, Creamy Macaroni Salad, Chickpea Sausages, Hazelnut Latte Cupcakes and more. METRO

Grilled Eggplant Sandwiches. Try a filling that's just as satisfying at meat

"Simple yet full of wonderful texture and flavour, these sandwiches can be prepared ahead of time and taken with you if there are no cooking facilities at your picnic spot," writes Carla Kelly in her book Vegan al fresco. "However, if you can grill on location, bring the marinated eggplant in containers and put sandwiches together using eggplant strips hot off the grill."

1. In a large flat container with a resealable lid or in a large zip-close bag, combine all marinade ingredients.

2. Cut eggplant in half lengthwise, then into 16 1/4-inch (6-mm) wide strips. Place eggplant slices in bag with marinade and toss to coat. Marinate for at least 1 hour (longer is better). Turn after 30 minutes.

3. In a small bowl, combine chive butter ingredients. Cover and chill until required.

4. Preheat barbecue to high (or broiler, if using oven) and grill eggplant slices for 20 minutes, turning as required until both sides are golden and a little caramelized. While grilling, split rolls lengthwise and lightly toast if desired.

5. Spread rolls with chive butter. Place tomato slices, greens, and red onions on 1 side of each sandwich. Top each with 4 slices of grilled eggplant.

RECIPES FROM VEGAN AL FRESCO: HAPPY & HEALTHY RECIPES FOR PICNICS, BARBECUES & OUTDOOR DINING BY CARLA KELLY (ARSENAL PULP PRESS, 2014)

Ingredients

- 1 medium eggplant, , about 1 lb (500 g)

Marinade

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) white wine
- 2 tbsp white balsamic vinegar or vegetable stock
- 2 tsp toasted cumin seeds
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp dried tarragon
- 1/4 –1/2 tsp chili flakes
- salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Chive Butter

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) finely chopped fresh chives
- 2 tbsp finely chopped shallots
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) vegan margarine

To Assemble

- 4 long baguette-style rolls
- 2 fresh ripe tomatoes, sliced
- 2 cups baby spinach

This recipe serves four people. TRACEY KUSIEWICZ/FOODIE PHOTOGRAPHY

Mojito-Inspired Tofu

1. In a large flat container with a resealable lid or in a large zip-close bag, combine juice, rum, mint, agave, oil, garlic, lime zest, and salt. Add tofu and marinate in refrigerator for at least 1 hour, turning after 30 minutes.

2. Preheat barbecue to medium heat. Lay down a sheet of aluminum foil lightly brushed with oil. Grill for 3–4 minutes each side until golden, basting frequently with leftover marinade.

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) + 2 tbsp fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) light rum
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) finely chopped fresh mint
- 1 1/2 tbsp agave
- 1 tbsp canola oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tsp lime zest
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 lb (500 g) extra-firm regular tofu (water-packed), drained and pressed, sliced widthwise into 12 rectangles

For your phone

Seafood Watch (iPhone/iPad/ Android; free)

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

Before you order, make sure the restaurant is serving ocean-friendly fish or sushi. This often-updated guide from the Monterey Bay Aquarium lists the status and farming practices for popular species.

4 SPORTS

Aaron Hernandez

Spilled drink led to 2012 murders: Prosecutors

Prosecutors say former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez gunned down two men in their car in 2012 after one of them accidentally bumped into him at a Boston nightclub, spilling a drink.

Hernandez pleaded not guilty in Suffolk Superior Court Wednesday afternoon in the shooting deaths of Daniel de Abreu and Safiro Furtado. A third man was wounded.

Prosecutors say Hernandez became agitated and told a friend that de Abreu had deliberately bumped him. Prosecutors say Hernandez later tracked down de Abreu and his friends and opened fire on their car from an SUV.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

L.A. Clippers

Sterlings may sell team before Donald booted

Shelly Sterling is reviewing bids from five groups interested in buying the Los Angeles Clippers, and a deal could be struck before next week's owners meeting provided both she and her estranged husband Donald relinquish total ownership in the team.

A person with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press on Wednesday if an agreement to sell is reached before next Tuesday, the league's owners wouldn't meet in New York to vote on terminating Donald Sterling's ownership.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadiens' Bourque reborn in playoffs

NHL playoffs. Montreal forward has 8 goals in playoffs after scoring only 9 in regular season

The Canadiens' Rene Bourque celebrates with teammate P.K. Subban after scoring his third goal of the game against the New York Rangers in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final Tuesday. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

There was a running joke during the NHL regular season about how Rene Bourque would almost score, or almost complete a pass, or almost make a hit.

Not a lot went beyond the "almost" stage for Bourque as the former two-time 27-goal scorer with the Calgary Flames finished 13th in team scoring on the Montreal Canadiens with nine goals and seven assists in 63 games.

But in the playoffs, Bourque has arrived.

The left-winger's hat trick in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final helped Montreal stave off elimination with a 7-4 victory over the Rangers and gave them new life heading into New York for another win-or-go-home matchup in Game 6 on Thursday night.

The Rangers lead the best-of-seven series 3-2 and must win at home to avoid a return to the hyper-loud and energized Bell Centre for Game 7 on Saturday night.

"At the end of the regular season, we saw Rene engaged in the game a lot more, moving his feet, being physical, going hard to the net," coach Michel Therrien said Wednesday. "He's doing a lot of good things.

"You can't expect a player to score three goals every night or even score every game. But even when he doesn't score, he's playing solid hockey. He's getting involved physically. And last night, for me, it was leadership. It was a huge game for us. He came up big, and that's good not only for him, but for us."

In 16 playoff games, Bourque has eight goals and three assists, and has become one of the team's most effective forwards in a duo that was put together near the end of the regular season with centre Lars Eller.

In the post-season, he's tied with Max Pacioretty for third in team scoring behind defenceman P.K. Subban with 14 points and Eller with 13. He leads the team in the Rangers series with four goals and two assists.

And he was tied for second in NHL playoff goals with Jonathan Toews and Jeff Carter, behind Los Angeles King Marian Gaborik, who had 10.

"It was definitely a good game for me to step up and help the team," the 32-year-old Bourque said after his first career playoff hat trick.

Bourque's regular season was so bad he was made a healthy scratch for the first time in his career for five games in March, amid reports the Canadiens were trying to trade him and a contact worth $3.3 million per year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suspended

The Rangers will be without defenceman John Moore for at least the remainder of the series. He was suspended for two games Wednesday after receiving a match penalty Tuesday night for a hit to Montreal forward Dale Weise's head.

Spurs fighting to avoid another collapse vs. OKC

Spurs guard Manu Ginobili, left, talks with Tony Parker during Game 4 in Oklahoma City, Tuesday. The Spurs will look to avoid falling behind in the 2-2 series Thursday after losing a 2-0 lead. SUE OGROCKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The San Antonio Spurs have seen this nightmare before.

In 2012, the Spurs won the first two games of the Western Conference finals against the Thunder, then lost four straight and were bounced out of the playoffs. This season, the Spurs were cruising in the West finals, winning two blowouts against Oklahoma City before Thunder defensive wiz Serge Ibaka unexpectedly came back from a left-calf strain. With renewed confidence and energy, Oklahoma City's youngsters rolled past their veteran counterparts in Game 3, and the reminders started coming.

The Thunder dominated Game 4 to tie the series, and now, the Spurs again face an uncomfortable scenario. They host Game 5 on Thursday in danger of falling behind 3-2. If they lose, they'll travel to Oklahoma City on Saturday facing elimination. Just like in 2012.

"Reminding people about what happened in the past helps in some way, but we have to go out there and execute and do things," Spurs forward Tim Duncan said.

The Thunder also have tried to distance themselves from their rare comeback, though they said it helped them remain hopeful when they were down 0-2.

"We can't think about the past.... We have to focus on right now," Thunder forward Kevin Durant said. "(San Antonio) is well-coached and has a great group of guys. They'll make it tough."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Repeating history

"We can't think about the past." Kevin Durant

Scan the image with your Metro News app for more coverage from a wild Wednesday at Roland Garros.

Canadians smashing French Open

Tennis. Raonic, Bouchard advance to third round of tournament

Milos Raonic bounced back from a troublesome first match and Eugenie Bouchard overcame a worrying first set as Canada's top singles tennis players drew on mental toughness to advance to the third round of the French Open.

Bouchard managed a 2-6, 6-2, 6-1 come-from-behind win over German Julia Goerges on Wednesday, while eighth-seeded Raonic beat Czech Jiri Vesely 7-6 (4), 6-4, 6-1 to reach the third round for a third consecutive year.

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., came back from a break down in the first set and won the hour-long opener in a tiebreak before taking control of the match.

Raonic said he is noticing signs of improvement on court after struggling somewhat in his opening match, a 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 win over Australian qualifier Nick Kyrgios.

"I feel like I'm playing better today than I did three days ago, I think I dealt a little bit better with when I got things figured out as far as intensity," he said.

Raonic's third-round opponent is 29th seed Gilles Simon of France, who will have a partisan crowd behind him.

"It's going to be tough," Raonic said.

Raonic and Simon have only faced each other once before, with Raonic winning on clay at the 2011 Estoril Open in Portugal.

Bouchard struggled in the first set before rallying to join Raonic in the third round.

"I wasn't worried after the first, I just took my time," said Bouchard. "I just really tried to forget about that I lost the first set and just start fresh. That's what I did for the second and third."

The 18th seed from Montreal will play Swede Johanna Larsson, who upset 12th-seeded Italian Flavia Pennetta 5-7, 6-4, 6-2.

Bouchard said she stayed mentally strong.

"I have confidence that no matter what happens on the court, I can fight and still give my best and give myself the best chance to win," she said.

Bouchard broke the 107th-ranked Goerges to end the match, taking the victory with 21 winners and conversions on six of 13 break points.

Bouchard broke twice in the second set and began the third with another break of the German as she raced to a 5-0 lead. But she lost serve in the next game after a forehand error.

She immediately recovered a game later, breaking Goerges back and advancing on her first match point.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Milos Raonic gets fired up during his second-round win at the French Open on Wednesday in Paris.
MATTHIAS HANGST/GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"It was definitely more of a mental win today to get my game back in the right place."

Eugenie Bouchard, two-time French Open participant, on her victory after overcoming a weak start against Julia Goerges

metro

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World Cup

Host Brazil faces doubters

Brazil's Deputy Sports Minister Luis Fernandes said Wednesday that Brazil would organize a successful World Cup despite what he called "prejudice" against so-called developing countries as they try to organize mega-sports events.

"We are confident that Brazil will surprise the world with a successful event in the World Cup," Fernandes said, speaking Wednesday with reporters in a teleconference.

Brazil's preparations of the World Cup, which opens June 12 in Sao Paulo, have been characterized by delays building or remodeling 12 stadiums, unfinished upgrades to airports and transportation, and criticism the $11.5 billion being spent should have been used to improve the country's poor schools and rundown hospitals.

"There is absolutely no contradiction between a developing country hosting a major event such as the World Cup or the Olympic Games, and increasing investment in education and in other public areas," said Fernandes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Physical physics.

'World's smartest man' shares World Cup tips

Stephen Hawking has turned his brilliant mind toward perhaps his toughest challenge yet — helping England win the World Cup.

Britain's most famous scientist, known for his theories on physics and the universe, has been commissioned by a betting company to analyze data from every World Cup England has qualified for since winning the tournament in 1966 in the hopes of coming up with a winning formula.

Hawking used his science to produce two formulas. The first one, taking into account a host of variables, describes the probability of England winning a match while the other addresses the country's penalty chances.

"Ever since the dawn of civilization, people have not been content to see events as unconnected and inexplicable," Hawking told a press conference in London. "They have craved an understanding of the underlying order in the world. The World Cup is no different."

Hawking, who is known for his sense of humour, then said he found it more difficult to make sense of soccer than explain the mysteries of the universe.

"It is hugely complicated," he said. "In fact, compared to football I think quantum physics is relatively straightforward."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hawking's tips:

Quantum physicist Stephen Hawking analyzed data from every World Cup England has played since 1966, looking for ways to improve England's chances in Brazil this summer. His recipe:

- Cool temperatures
- Low altitude
- 4-3-3 lineup
- Wear red kit
- Kick off at 3:00 local time
- Penalty kicks by the side-foot after at least three steps' run-up

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
If you lose interest in what you are doing today it's a sign you are doing the wrong thing. A change of scene will help but in the long-term you may have to change your lifetime ambitions.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You need to show your vulnerable side. Too often you give the impression that nothing can bring you down when, in reality, you are as sensitive as everyone else.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may be a bit touchy over the next 24 hours. With your ruler Mercury moving into sensitive Cancer if there is anything worrying you it is sure to show up. Don't try to avoid it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Social activities are under excellent stars today and the best way relax is to seek out people who think and act is similar ways to you. Looking for love? Find it with someone who shares your cultural interests.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Your confidence will get a boost today and you will be a lot more relaxed about your social and professional status. One door may have closed to you but within a matter of days, another door will open.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Money may be important to you but it must not be allowed to come ahead of more important things such as love and laughter. Don't think about what you own and earn, think about what motivates you.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If there has been a dispute, now is the time to patch things up. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to business issues. There's always a solution.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your creative powers will be at their height over the next 24 hours, so make good use of them. Also, take your pleasures where you find them and don't listen to those who say you should be more cautious.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may have tasks to complete but now is not the time to get busy on them. As Venus, planet of harmony, moves into the wellbeing area of your chart today your best course of action is to take life easy.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Something you found difficult before will come easier to you today. You may still have to struggle in other areas but the planets will generally give your spirits a lift and help you believe that most things are possible.

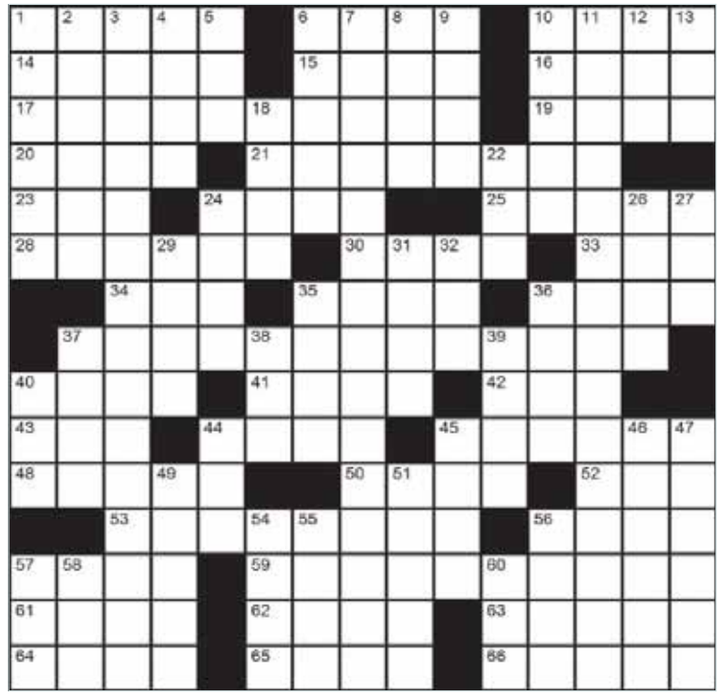
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Sometimes you get so caught up in making a living that you forget there are people who love you so much they don't care what you achieve. One such person will delight you.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't worry that others might think less of you if you ease off. Worry only that if you don't take better care of yourself you might come to harm. The planets urge you to take things at a slower pace. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Jubilant, poetry-style
6. Cole Porter's "Miss __ Regrets"
10. Lemony
14. Prepares potatoes
15. Stethoscope sound
16. Ms. Sanders
17. Canada's 'Big Five' gig: 2 wds.
19. Rob Roy, for one
20. Alberta town
21. Canadian cartoon series, "My __ Is Evil"
23. Bond
24. Manage
25. DQ's 'D'
28. Feels
30. Dry: Spanish
33. '_' __ in Victoria
34. Spoil
35. "The Simpsons" bus driver
36. Slammer
37. Toronto-born singer/songwriter who has rocked with Legendary Hearts: 2 wds.
40. Funny lady Imogene
41. God: Latin
42. "Unbelievable" hitmakers
43. "Entourage" superagent
44. Espionage: Mata __
45. Hurriedly depart again, say
48. Mountain chain
50. Dianetics guru, _. __ Hubbard
52. Poetic preposition
53. Prepped the sewing needle
56. "Top _' __ mornin' to you!"
57. Music's Ma
59. CTV series "Motive", for example: 2 wds.
61. "Lend me your __ and I'll sing..." - The Beatles
62. Knee, medical-style
63. Try to unearth: 2 wds.
64. Proofreading term
65. Slumps
66. Heavens

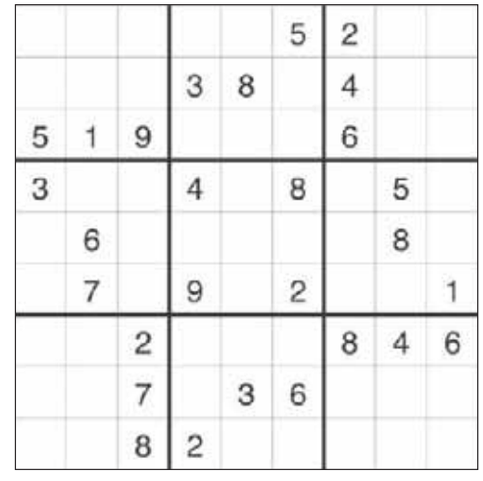
Down

1. Friary figures
2. Net minder
3. St. Lawrence, Newfoundland born journalist/writer: 2 wds.
4. Bugling beasts
5. 'Earn' ender (Sincere)
6. Low ship deck
7. First Canadian Place in Toronto is Canada's what?: 2 wds.
8. '50s series, "_ __ Three Lives"
9. Feudal worker
10. "Battle of the Blades" champ Ms. Bonhomme
11. Some of the National Film Board's treasures: 2 wds.
12. Copacabana city
13. "Ka-boom!" stuff
18. Me-me-me's
22. Testimony-giver's oath: 2 wds.
24. Particle physics lab near Geneva
26. Staircase support
27. Posh wallet's lettering
29. Hall & Oates' "__ Smile"
31. Quebec 'summers'
32. Scam
35. Terminer's court pal
36. Doorway part
37. Tropical island, when doubled
38. Ms. LeShan
39. Jukebox tune: "__ Angel"
40. Vehicle variety
44. Lady
45. Took the bus
46. Canadian actress who plays Detective Angie Flynn on the show at #59-Across, Kristin __
47. Dog training incentives
49. 1990 movie blockbuster
51. Romulus and __
54. Hosp. heart recordings
55. Locale
56. "I have no money __ _ _ on me." (Stolen-wallet-person's conundrum)
57. Uh-huh
58. Cereal grass
60. Ike's Presidential monogram

Yesterday's Crossword

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

1	9	4	6	5	8	3	7	2
6	3	2	1	7	9	8	5	4
8	7	5	4	3	2	6	9	1
3	1	7	2	9	5	4	8	6
4	5	8	7	1	6	2	3	9
9	2	6	3	8	4	7	1	5
7	4	9	5	2	3	1	6	8
5	6	3	8	4	1	9	2	7
2	8	1	9	6	7	5	4	3

Today
21°/12°
Variable

Friday
22°/10°
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70%

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††CASH DISCOUNT: Get $2,000/$2,000 cash discount on the cash purchase of any new 2014 Versa Note models (except 1.6 S MT, B5RG54 AA00)/2014 Sentra models (except Sentra 1.8 S MT, C4LG54 AA00); includes $250 dealer participation. The cash discount is based on non-stackable trading dollars when registered and delivered between May 15 – June 2, 2014. The cash discount is only available on the cash purchase, and will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease or finance rates. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. NISSAN FINANCE Lease or Finance discount: The $3,500/$3,000 discount is available on the lease or purchase finance of a new 2014 Sentra 1.8 S, VOP Package (C4LG54 BK00), M6 Transmission/ all other 2014 Sentra models (except Sentra 1.8 S MT, (C4LG54 AA00); includes $250 in dealer participation. The discount is based on non-stackable trading dollars through Nissan Finance with standard lease or finance rates when registered and delivered between May 15 – June 2, 2014. The discount will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease or finance rates. Conditions apply. #Representative semi-monthly lease offer based on new 2014 Sentra 1.8 S (C4LG54 AA00), M6 transmission. 0% lease APR for a 39 month term equals 78 semi-monthly payments of $77 with $0 down payment, and $0 security deposit. First semi-monthly payment, down payment and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $6,001. $1,035 NF Lease Cash included in advertised price, applicable only on 2014 Sentra 1.8 S (C4LG54 AA00), M6 transmission through subvented lease through Nissan Finance. ‡Representative finance offer based on a new 2014 Versa Note 1.6 S (B5Rg54 AA00) manual transmission. Selling Price is $14,949 financed at 0% APR equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $74 for an 84 month term. $1,499 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $14,949. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. *MSRP starting from $9,998/$15,748 for a 2015 Nissan Micra® 1.6 S (S5LG55 AA00), Manual Transmission/2015 Micra 1.6 SR (S5SG55 AA00), manual transmission excluding Freight and PDE charges and specific duties of new tires. •$11,432 Selling Price for a new 2015 Micra® 1.6 S (S5LG55 AA00), Manual Transmission. Conditions apply. ▲Models shown $20,719/$25,899/ $17,282 Selling Price for a new 2014 Versa Note 1.6 SL Tech (B5TG14 NA00), Xtronic CVT® transmission/Sentra 1.8 SL (C4TG14 AA00), CVT transmission/2015 Micra® 1.6 SR (S5SG55 AA00), Manual Transmission. *‡•▲Freight and PDE charges ($1,567/$1,567/$1,400), air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, certain fees (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. Offers valid between May 15 -June 2, 2014. †Global Automakers of Canada Entry Level Segmentation. MY14 Versa Note v. MY13/14 competitors. °Nissan is the fastest growing brand in the non-luxury segment based on comparison of 12-month retail sales from April 2013 to March 2014 of all Canadian automotive brands and 12-month averages sales growth. ^Based on 2014 Canadian Residual Value Award in Subcompact Car segment. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. +All information compiled from third-party sources including manufacturer websites. Not responsible for errors in data on third party websites. 12/17/2013. iPod® is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. All rights reserved. iPod® not included. Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. Offers have no cash alternative value. See your participating Nissan retailer for complete details. ©1998-2014 Nissan Canada Inc. and Nissan Financial Services Inc. a division of Nissan Canada Inc.